

Offshore Wind Development---Precursor to Future Power Outages

Surviving the summer heat may become much more uncomfortable and inconvenient due to a recent change in New Jersey's energy policy. Our reliable and dependable baseload energy will soon be replaced by intermittent renewables if New Jersey follows Governor Murphy's extreme plan to create 50% electricity generation from renewables such as Offshore Wind (OSW) Turbines by 2030 and 100% by 2050.

The Murphy Administration's plan to replace baseload generation will create a significant risk to everyday life as was evidenced by the major power outage in Wildwood. Over 24,000 homes and businesses in Cape May County were without power on Friday due to a fire at a substation.

Outages like this could very well become the norm if renewables dominate the grid. The Governor is fast-tracking his precipitous plan to replace baseload electricity with OSW power through Executive Orders and legislation without the necessary studies for a safe and reliable electrical system.

The replacement of current base load facilities with OSW power makes no common sense. This year, the first 10 days of July 2023 started off hot and humid with low wind activity. OSW turbines would have provided little generation, if any. If we transition to the Governor's plan to eliminate current base load electricity generation, we will no longer have a reliable source of backup power during the blazing hot summer months or the frigid cold winters we experience in the Northeast. The current OSW technology can only provide electricity when the wind is blowing.

Moving away from the reliable base load power we currently enjoy towards inconsistent weather-dependent renewable sources is impractical and inconsistent with sound planning of our electricity generation. If we follow Murphy's path, we will experience an increase in power outages, a decrease in critical electricity production at crucial times, an increase in electricity costs, and significant damage to our oceans and sea life. The outage in Wildwood is a stark reminder of what is to come if we follow Murphy's plans.

Protect Our Coast NJ